

**TOWN OF NORTHFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes of April 9, 2007**

- I. **ROLL CALL:** Chair Melvin Adams, Selectman Kenneth Johnson, Roger LeClair, Charles Morse, and Gregory Sanders. Also present were Manager Nanci Allard, Clerk Samantha Baraw, Kathleen Lott (Northfield News & Transcript), Suzanne Jolly (Greater Northfield Coalition Council), Lawrence Garland (Northfield Conservation Commission), and Kris Hammer (Montpelier Conservation Commission).

Chair Adams called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. **March 26, 2007 (Regular Meeting).** Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman LeClair, to approve the minutes. There was one addition under **VIII Executive Session:** "Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Johnson, to authorize the Chair to coordinate the working relationship between the Manager and Listers to include budgets, hours, training, and to report at the next Board meeting. **Motion passed 5-0-0.** **Motion to approve the amended minutes passed 5-0-0.**

III. **APPROVAL OF BILLS**

- a. **Warrant #20-07:** Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Johnson, to approve Warrant #20-07 in the amount of \$64,869.59. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

IV. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- a. **Suzanne Jolly, Greater Northfield Coalition Council (Executive Director): Alcohol Awareness Month:** Ms. Jolly came to let people know that April is Alcohol Awareness Month. They have partnered with the Vermont Department of Health and will be doing presentations throughout Northfield and Roxbury regarding alcohol assessments. Ms. Jolly handed out copies of an alcohol assessment to the Board members. If people take the survey and find that they answer yes to two or more of the questions, they should seek assistance from their doctor, the Vermont Department of Health, etc. You can also find information online at www.alcoholscreening.org or by calling 1-800-639-6095. Also, feel free to stop by the Making a Difference Resource Center, located on the Village Common between TDS Telecom and the STAR Program, call 485-8081, or email drugfree@trans-video.net. The hours are weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. with extended hours (to 7:00 p.m.) on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays.
- b. **Kris Hammer, Montpelier Conservation Commission (Chair): Berlin Pond Watershed Project:** Mr. Hammer provided a short presentation about conservation easements and protection of the Berlin Pond watershed. He has been doing work around Berlin Pond because that is the water supply for Montpelier. Most of the pond is in Berlin, some in Williamstown, and about 25% is in Northfield. There were some statistics provided, as well as an overview of the proposal. Letters will be sent out from the Montpelier Conservation Commission to the Northfield property owners that are in the watershed area. They will also be making phone calls to answer questions. The Village Trustees also will be approached.

V. **MANAGER'S REPORT**

- a. **Selectboard Retreat.** The retreat will be held on Saturday, May 5, 2007 starting in the morning. Time and location to be announced.
- b. **Joint Board Meeting.** The Joint Board Meeting will be held Monday, April 23, 2007.
- c. **Status Reports: Various Projects.**
1. **National Library Week.** In celebration of National Library Week, Vermont Governor James Douglas will visit Northfield's Brown Public Library (93 South Main Street) on Monday, April 16, 2007 at 10:15 a.m. Governor Douglas will read to the children during the pre-school story hour and sign a proclamation.

VI. **SELECTBOARD**

- a. **Tax Mapping Draft RFP:** The draft was provided by the Board of Listers. It is preferred to hold this item until the next joint board meeting. Selectman Morse suggested that, regarding Town Involvement (Page 1), the Town should initiate an account at a local copy center to help get this done. It would encourage property owners to register surveys. Selectman Morse also suggested that Exhibit C be changed to fit our warrant schedule.

- b. **2007 Liquor License Renewals:**
1. **Champlain Farms.** Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Johnson, to approve the application. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**
 2. **Northfield Country Club.** Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman LeClair, to approve the application. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**
- c. **Executive Summary: McGovern Driveway Permit.** Motion by Selectman LeClair, seconded by Selectman Morse, to approve the permit. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**
- d. **Executive Summary: Bridge Inspection Reports.** Motion by Selectman Johnson, seconded by Selectman Morse, to accept the reports. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**
- e. **Police Cruiser (1999 Chevrolet Blazer) Bid Results.** Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Johnson, to accept the bid and to release the vehicle to the high bidder (Reginald Brown). **Motion passed 5-0-0.**
- f. **1-2-3 Paint! (Community Beautification Program).** There are some locations that were identified for this project, such as the pool house and the skate park.
- g. **Town Policies.** Selectman Morse had requested all the policies under which the Boards conduct themselves. Packets were provided to the Selectmen and the Village Trustees. Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Johnson, to ratify the personnel policy of January 7, 2007. **Motion passed 5-0-0.** Motion by Selectman LeClair, seconded by Selectman Johnson, to ratify the Fraud Policy of November 2006. **Motion passed 5-0-0.** Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman LeClair, to ratify the roads standards policy of January 23, 2006. **Motion passed 5-0-0.** Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman LeClair, to approve the Class 4 Roads and Trails policy. This will be deferred to the Policy Team. Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Johnson, to ratify the Cemetery Policy of July 1996. **Motion passed 5-0-0.** Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Johnson, to ratify the Purchasing Policy of February 2002. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**
- h. **Petition to Reconsider Town Meeting Article #25 (Collection of Property Taxes in Installments).** There was a petition filed to reconsider the collection of property taxes. The motion was made at Town Meeting for four (4) equal installments, as opposed to two (2) equal installments as was the previous standard. Motion by Selectman Johnson, seconded by Selectman Morse, to accept the petition. **Motion passed 5-0-0.** Motion by Selectman LeClair, seconded by Selectman Johnson, to hold a special Town Meeting on Monday, April 23, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. at the Northfield High School. **Motion passed 5-0-0.** It was noted that the committee that wanted to form the Northfield Conservation Commission had requested to be on the next Special Town Meeting warning. They were contacted by Selectman Morse and agreed to wait until later.
- Note: upon further consultation with the Vermont Secretary of State's office the next day, it was determined that the April 23, 2007 date could not be warned properly. The Special Town Meeting subsequently was rescheduled at a Special Selectboard Meeting for Monday, May 14, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. in the Northfield High School's Mary Granai Corrigan Auditorium.*
- i. **Status Reports: Various Projects**
1. **Appointed and Elected Positions.** Selectman Johnson requested that the Manager look into budgets of the appointed positions and elected positions and the level of control the Manager has over these officials.
- VII. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** Non-agenda items: None.
- VIII. **ADJOURNMENT:** Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman LeClair, to adjourn the meeting. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

The Board adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Samantha H. Baraw

Samantha H. Baraw, Clerk

These minutes are subject to approval at the next regular meeting.